**From:** Kelley, Craig
**To:** Phillip Sego
**Subject:** Re: BDS resolution
**Date:** Friday, April 13, 2018 7:45:57 AM

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Thanks, Phil.

Craig

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On Apr 12, 2018, at 8:46 AM, Phillip Sego <phil@philsego.com> wrote:

> Hi Craig,
>
> **I want you to know that I am ADAMANTLY OPPOSED to the city taking any action re: Hewlett Packard and the BDS movement.**
>
> There are dozens of countries that have been accused of occupying regions, including China, India, Russia, the United Kingdom, Georgia, Ethiopia – and many more. Singling out Israel for special treatment, while taking no actions on other occupations, is more than unfair. Numerous articles have recently appeared in the Boston Globe, New York Times, and other publications that trace the global sharp increase in anti-Semitism on the spiraling and divisive rhetoric in the Mideast.
>
> This proposed action by the BDS movement only serves to further demonize Israel. This proposal would have implications far beyond Hewlett-Packard and Cambridge. While I am opposed the many of the policies and actions of the Israeli government, this is not a solution. This proposed policy only serves to further demonize one potential offender while turning a blind eye to the hundreds of others. If adopted, it will tarnish the reputation of our city.
>
> The Cambridge City Council should not be complicit in any interest group's desire to demonize Israel. Thousands of companies worldwide are engaged in transactions that can be tied to questionable human rights practices; including countless companies with Cambridge contacts and which supply our city with needed materials and services. Any resolution of this kind deserves a full and fair public hearing, including inviting experts and interested parties to weigh in openly before action is taken.
>
> Furthermore, the BDS movement is clearly detrimental to achieving peace. The establishment of a Palestinian state is a goal we share, but will not be realized by ignoring the complex reality in the region. There are many people who are working to bridge the divide between Israelis and Palestinians. Boycotts, like the one under consideration, undermine these peacemakers, fuel polarization, and strengthen the hands of those who reject co-existence.
>
> Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.
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> Best,
> -- Phil

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tel: 617-807-0311

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